

Message Text

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ORIGIN SCI-06

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DRAFTED BY SCI/SA:JHARRIS:RLIIMATAINEN

APPROVED BY SCI/SA:PHEMILY

SCI/EX - MR. DEHAVEN

EUR/WE - MR. HABIB

INTERIOR - DR. FLEMING (SUB)

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P 132148Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:TPHY

SUBJECT:ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE REQUESTED BY U.S.
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

FOR SCICON AND PETER SKOUFIS

1. USGS NEEDS CERTAIN GEOPHYSICAL DATA ON THE SOUTHEAST
GEORGIA EMBAYMENT-BLAKE PLATEAU ON THE EASTERN CONTINENTAL
MARGIN OF NORTH AMERICA. DATA CONSISTS OF MULTI-CHANNEL
SEISMIC, GRAVITATIONAL, MAGNETIC, BATHYMETRIC OBSERVATIONS.
USGS LEARNED RECENTLY THAT THE INSTITUT FRANCAIS DE PETROLE,
BOITE POSTALE 18, 92592 RUEIL MALMAISON, PARIS, HAS RESEARCH
VESSEL CAPABLE OF OBTAINING NECESSARY DATA AND VESSEL
WILL BE IN THAT AREA FALL, 1974 FOR THE 3 OR 4 WEEKS
REQUIRED TO OBTAIN DATA. COSTS TO USGS FOR SHIP OPERATING
COST AND INSTRUMENTATION ESTIMATED AT APPROXIMATELY \$2,500
PER DAY. COMPARATIVE COST TO CONTRACT A SHIP FROM THE
U.S. WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY \$7,500 PER DAY. USGS HAS BEEN
VISITED BY INSTITUT SCIENTISTS AND THEY ARE WILLING TO
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PROVIDE SHIP TIME AND EQUIPMENT IF LEGAL AND FINANCIAL

ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE.

2. PROBLEM ARISES AS TO TIMING AND EXECUTION OF CONTRACT.
ALTHOUGH CRUISE WILL NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL FALL 1974 THE
INSTITUT MUST COMPLETE THE SHIP'S SCHEDULE WITHIN NEXT

FEW WEEKS. PREFERABLE ARRANGEMENTS BE MADE BEFORE DR. PIRET
ATTENDS SCIATT BRIEFING IN WASHINGTON DURING WEEK OF MAY 20.

3. ACTION REQUESTED THAT EMBASSY ASSIST USGS BY
EXECUTING A CONTRACT WITH THE INSTITUT AND MAKE DISBURSE-
MENTS THERFOR AGAINST USGS APPROPRIATION AND ALLOTMENT.
DUE TO INCREASE IN REQUESTED EMBASSY ASSISTANCE USGS IS
WILLING TO ENTER INTO SAS AGREEMENT IF NECESSARY. APPRECIAT
REPLY SOONEST. RUSH

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